

Nebraska Council on Teacher Education

Educator Preparation Advisory Committee to the Nebraska State Board of Education

Executive Committee Minutes August 22, 2013

Meeting Time: 9:00 A.M. – 1:00 P.M.

Meeting Site: Morton Magnet Middle School, 4606 Terrace Drive, Omaha, NE 68134

Call to Order – President Doreen Jankovich 9:05 A.M.—Welcome & Called to Order—
President Jankovich welcomed all to Morton Magnet Middle School and announced NSEA provided refreshments for this meeting, including lunch. She shared a brief PowerPoint presentation she is developing as a tool to use to educate the membership about NCTE at the October meeting, and encouraged the committee to provide suggestions as she continues to develop the presentation.

Approval of April 25, 2013 Executive Committee Meeting minutes Motion for approval by Bone, Second by Schnabel. Motion carried.

Approval of June 6, 2013 NCTE General Session Meeting minutes Motion for approval by Moss, Second by Katt. Motion carried.

Approval of June 6, 2013 NCTE Standing Committee minutes: Certification Committee
Graduate Committee
Undergraduate Committee
All approved without objection.

NCTE Membership Update – There have been two changes in Higher Education alternates since the NCTE Membership List was approved, due to faculty changes.

1. Rule Status Updates – NDE Staff

- **Rule 20**—Cleared NDE legal review 8.21.13. Since substantive changes have been proposed in the revision, it will be sent to the Attorney General for a preliminary review prior to moving it through the formal process.
- **Rule 21**—Peters reported Rule 21 is undergoing revision with the intent that a revised version will be presented for the Board's consideration this fall. Changes include: incorporating content testing requirements, making changes to the Special Services Coaching endorsement to reflect changes in the Nebraska School Activities Association (NSAA) course competency expectations. Other changes (as discussed later in the meeting) include consideration of the Dual Credit and Career Education Certificate provisions.
- **Rule 23**—Peters reported Rule 23 goes to Public Hearing September 12, 2013 at 10:00 A.M. at the State Office Building, 6th Floor; anticipated implementation will be in 2014—will have to be reviewed in two years and both in-state and out-of-state candidate score data will be reviewed at that time to see if adjustments of required scores need to be made.
- **Rule 24** – Madsen reported the current Rule 24 was signed by Governor on June 18, 2013 and became effective August 1, 2013. Endorsement changes include: Superintendent, Biology, Chemistry, Earth and Space Science, Physics, Science (field), Mathematics, Speech-Language Pathologist (field), Speech Language Technician (Special Services), and Coaching (Special Services); Physical Science (field) removed.
Work is underway on Rule 24 for August 1, 2014, which will move forward for State Board consideration later this year.

2. Proposed Rule 24 Endorsements – Madsen introduced the Ad Hoc Chairs and discussion was held on the following proposed endorsements:

- **Special Education: Deaf or Hard of Hearing/Subject** (Rhonda Fleischer, *NDE State Liaison and Ad Hoc Co-Chair* and Teresa Koontz, *NDE Ad Hoc Co-Chair*)
Executive Committee recommendations based upon discussion:
 - Change grade levels to include Birth-age 21 (or Birth-Grade 12)*, PK-6, and 7-12

- Change 006.06D to clarify the hours that are to be in the specified categories.
- Change introductory Guidelines language to be consistent with other Special Education endorsements.

Moved ahead to NCTE Agenda—10.11.13 meeting.

*Discussion regarding this proposed endorsement (and subsequent Special Education endorsements) related to the need to be clear that the intention of a Birth-Grade 12 endorsement is inclusive of the Nebraska Birth-age 21 mandate. The Executive Committee directed NDE staff to look across the proposed Special Education endorsements and make changes that will create consistency with the use of either Birth-Grade 12 or Birth-age 21. These changes will be made to the proposed endorsements in preparation for presentation of the endorsements to NCTE for consideration at the October NCTE meeting.

- **Audiologist (Special Services) (Name changed from ‘Educational Audiologist’)**
Fleischer clarified that the proposed endorsement changes had been discussed with Nebraska’s 9 school audiologists, and it met with their approval. Audiologist will now be similar to School Nurse in that annual Nebraska license will be awarded through Nebraska DHHS.

Executive Committee recommendations based upon discussion:

- Determine appropriate Grade Level designation: Birth-age 21 or Birth-Grade 12

Moved ahead to NCTE Agenda—10.11.13 meeting.

- **Special Education: Visual Impairment/Subject – (Teresa Coonts, NDE Education Specialist and Ad Hoc Chair and Rhonda Fleischer, NDE State Liaison)**

Executive Committee recommendations based upon discussion:

- Determine appropriate Grade Level designation: Birth-age 21 or Birth-Grade 12
- Add “regular certificate” to 006.66D.
- Change introductory Guidelines language to be consistent with other Special Education endorsements.

Moved ahead to NCTE Agenda—10.11.13 meeting.

Proposed Special Education Endorsements – Carol McClain (NDE Office of Special Education and Special Education Ad Hoc Chair / via conference call):

- **Special Education: Behavior Intervention Specialist/Supplemental**

Executive Committee recommendations based upon discussion:

- Determine appropriate Grade Level designation: Birth-age 21 or Birth-Grade 12
- New language added to provide opportunity for individuals without a SPED endorsement to obtain this endorsement through completion of an additional 12 hours in SPED (i.e. 30 hours will be required for an individual with a regular certificate and a non-SPED endorsement to add this endorsement).
- Endorsement levels same as DHH recommendations (B-Gr 12, PK-6, 7-12)

Moved ahead to NCTE Agenda—10.11.13 meeting.

- **Special Education: Functional Academic Skills and Independent Living Specialist/Supplemental (New endorsement; replaces Severe/Multiple Disabilities)**

Executive Committee recommendations based upon discussion:

- Determine appropriate Grade Level designation: Birth-age 21 or Birth-Grade 12
- Change introductory Guidelines language to be consistent with other Special Education endorsements.

Moved ahead to NCTE Agenda—10.11.13 meeting.

- **Special Education: Inclusion and Collaboration Specialist / Supplemental** (New endorsement; replaces Learning Disabilities; ages 3/PK through age 21/Grade 12)
Executive Committee recommendations based upon discussion:
 - Determine appropriate Grade Level designation: age 3/PK through age 21/Grade 12
 - Question about this endorsement being approved for Rule 11 reimbursement; however, the answer was not determined to be an issue for moving this endorsement forward. NDE staff will check to see if this would be approved for Rule 11.
Moved ahead to NCTE Agenda—10.11.13 meeting.
- **Special Education: Secondary Transition Specialist / Supplemental**
Changes include: Transition Specialist has been a Special Services endorsement, would now become a teaching endorsement. Candidates would not have to have a Special Education endorsement to obtain this endorsement, however the endorsement will be listed with Special Education endorsements for categorization and statutory purposes, as per Executive Committee discussion.
Moved ahead to NCTE Agenda—10.11.13 meeting.
- **Special Education: Early Intervention Specialist / Supplemental** (New endorsement; Birth to Kindergarten)
Executive Committee Discussion centered on the proposed 240-clock hour field experience requirement. Generally, the Executive Committee felt this was excessive as compared with other supplemental endorsements. Consensus was reached to recommend this endorsement move forward with a change to 200-clock hours of field experience. This endorsement will meet Rule 51 and Rule 11 staff requirements.
Moved ahead to NCTE Agenda—10.11.13 meeting.
- **Special Education Supervisor / Administrative** (New endorsement)
Executive Committee recommendations based upon discussion:
 - Determine appropriate Grade Level designation: Birth-age 21 or Birth-Grade 12
 - Discussion was held regarding changing the proposed endorsement to require 'special education teaching experience' (rather than 'teaching experience'). After considerable discussion, the Executive Committee recommended that the language remain as proposed by the Ad Hoc committee. Peters indicated NDE legal also recommends 'teaching experience'.
Moved ahead to NCTE Agenda—10.11.13 meeting.
- **Special Education Endorsements that will be removed from Rule 24:**
 - **Special Education: Deaf or Hard of Hearing (Field)**
 - **Special Education: Learning Disabilities** (Replaced by Inclusion and Collaboration)
 - **Special Education: Severe/Multiple Disabilities** (Replaced by Functional Academic Skills and Independent Living)
- **Special Services Coaching** (Kevin Peters)
NSAA is in process of approving a new curriculum for the courses offered to obtain the special services coaching endorsement. The proposed endorsement reflects those changes and is consistent with changes that will be proposed in the next Rule 21 revision. Peters indicated an intent for the endorsement to return to a 9-12 endorsement; however, this needs to be further discussed with NDE staff and NSAA.

Upcoming Ad Hoc Committees: Middle Grades (4-9), Art and General Art, and all Music endorsements – Sign-up sheets will be available at the October NCTE meeting.

3. NDE Updates – NDE Staff

- **Basic Skills Testing** – NE will continue to use Praxis I/PPST until August 31, 2014. Beginning

Sept. 1, 2014, NE will use Praxis CORE Academic Skills, as PPST will not be available. PPST scores will be accepted indefinitely.

- **Content Testing** – ETS representatives met with content specialists and others in Lincoln on May 22. Institutions have been notified of content tests and tentative recommended scores, and are encouraged to have candidates take the appropriate tests during the 2013-2014 academic year. As of Sept. 1, 2014, applicants for initial certification will be required to show evidence that they have taken the appropriate content test. (No score requirement until Sept. 1, 2015.)
- **Program Approval and Accountability Initiatives** –
 - A revised state program approval process is being piloted by four institutions. The process is intended to increase the focus on accountability and transparency regarding program effectiveness and candidate outcomes.
- **Model Student Teacher Assessment** –
 - Currently being piloted by several institutions. The assessment is built on the InTASC standards which are also included in the proposed Rule 20 revision as program effectiveness standards.
- **First Year Teacher/Employer Follow Up Survey** –
 - Discussion is underway regarding the development of a state-managed first-year teacher employer and graduate follow-up survey. This will also have its basis in the InTASC standards. The plan includes a pilot with 4-6 district administrators this fall and full roll-out in Spring, 2014 regarding 2012-13 program completers employed in Nebraska schools for the first time during the 2013-2014 academic year.
- **NCTQ Reports** –
 - Katt provided a brief overview of two National Council on Teacher Education (NCTQ) reports. A report on Educator Preparation Institutions was issued earlier this summer. A report on state educator preparation is in draft form. These reports have received media attention – Katt suggested that reaction to the reports should be tempered by a careful look at the nature of the questions and the methodology used before drawing conclusions about the consistently negative reviews of Nebraska's programs.
- **Program Approval** – Nebraska Wesleyan State Approval and On-Site NCATE Visit–

November 3-5, 2013

4. Determine NCTE Work for 2013-2014 Academic Year – Executive Committee

- Jankovich advised the Committee that Becky Schnabel joins the Executive Committee to represent the higher education constituency (in compliance with Organizational Policies.) Donna Moss joins the Executive Committee since she assumed standing committee chair when Jankovich assumed the NCTE President responsibilities.
- Madsen provided copies of the current standing committee designations. Discussion regarding the names of the three committees resulted in a recommendation that committees be designated as A, B, and C since the intent is to equalize the work – rather than designate according to undergraduate, graduate, and certification issues as was done traditionally. The Executive Committee directed NDE staff to assign membership to the three committees with consideration to balancing perspectives and constituencies.
- The committee members indicated that Thursday NCTE Executive Committee meetings work well for their schedules. The January meeting will be held at Omaha Westside.
- Discussion was held regarding the NCTE membership vote several years ago to hold at least one meeting at a location other than Lincoln. Information indicates that Lincoln is the most cost-effective location. Given the continuing need to conserve resources, the Executive Committee recommended that meetings will continue to be held in Lincoln.

- New Member Orientation was discussed. It was determined that the PowerPoint presentation being developed by Jankovich would be a good resource for the entire membership. The recommendation was to start the NCTE meeting at 9:00 A.M. No special 'New Member Orientation' session will be held.

5. Proposed Agenda Items for October 11 NCTE Meeting at Country Inn & Suites, Lincoln

Meeting Start Time – 9:00 A.M.

Opening Remarks – Dr. Roger Breed, Retired NDE Commissioner of Education has been invited to bring opening remarks, but may have a scheduling conflict. If he is unable to attend, no other presenter will be contacted.

Proposed endorsements for First and Second Hearings:

Special Education endorsements:

Special Education: Deaf or Hard of Hearing (Subject)
 Special Education: Visually Impaired (Subject)
 Special Education: Behavior Intervention Specialist (Supplemental)
 Special Education: Early Intervention Specialist (Supplemental)
 Special Education: Functional Academics and Independent Living Specialist (Supplemental)
 Special Education: Inclusion and Collaboration Specialist (Supplemental)
 Special Education: Secondary Transition Specialist (Supplemental)
 Special Education Supervisor (Administrative)
 Audiologist (Special Services)
 Special Services Coaching

Standing Committee Discussions:

- Middle Grades endorsement – Structured questions will be provided that will inform the upcoming revision of the endorsement. The Middle Grades Ad Hoc meeting will be held in late 2013 or early 2014.
- Testing—Structured questions that will inform further development of testing policies will be provided at the request of the Executive Committee.

Katt advised the Executive Committee of a recent request from a state organization for time on the NCTE Executive Committee and/or NCTE meeting agenda to discuss their purpose/vision. It was recommended that the most appropriate response is to advise the individuals that public comment time is available to them at the NCTE meeting, with the committee recommending that 10 minutes be provided. (Note: NCTE Organizational Policies address Visitor Comment Period in Section 14.00: In conjunction with each meeting of NCTE, there shall be a visitors' comment period at which time those members of the public wishing to address NCTE shall have an opportunity to do so, subject to procedures adopted by NCTE. The presiding officer shall have the right to limit discussion in order to facilitate the work of NCTE". For reference, State Board policy regarding public comment at State Board meetings can be found at http://www.education.ne.gov/StateBoard/Public_Participation.html; it could appear decision of the Executive Committee, and the NCTE Organizational Policy language, would be consistent how the State Board handles public comment.)

The meeting adjourned at 1:30 P.M.

Upcoming Meetings:

NCTE Full Council Meeting – Friday, October 11, 2013 at Country Inn & Suites, Lincoln

NCTE Executive Committee Meeting – January 23, 2014 / Omaha Westside

NCTE Full Council Meeting – Friday, March 7, 2014 at Country Inn & Suites, Lincoln

NCTE Executive Committee Meeting – April 24, 2014 / Ralston Virginia Moon

Administration Center

NCTE Full Council Meeting – Friday, June 6, 2014 at The Cornhusker